

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/539,119
Response filed September 8, 2006
Reply to OA dated June 8, 2006

REMARKS:

Claims 1-3 are currently being examined, of which claim 1 has been amended herein.

The Examiner has objected to the abstract due to an informality. In particular, the Examiner has objected to the term “comprising” in line 1 of the abstract. The abstract, as amended, does not include the term “comprising.” Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that this objection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has provisionally rejected claims 1-3 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double-patenting as being obvious over claims 1 and 4 of Application No. 10/534,283.

Applicant respectfully traverses this provisional rejection, for the following reasons.

Claim 1 of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/534,283 sets forth: “A solid electrolytic capacitor comprising a capacitor element which includes an anode foil and a cathode foil rolled with a separator interposed therebetween, and a layer of a solid electrolyte or an electrically conductive polymer provided therein, wherein the cathode foil is coated with a film of a titanium-containing compound metal nitride selected from the group consisting of aluminum titanium nitride, chromium titanium nitride, and zirconium titanium nitride.”

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Claim 1, as amended herein, of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/539,119 sets forth: “A solid electrolytic capacitor comprising a capacitor element which includes an anode foil and a cathode foil rolled with a separator interposed therebetween, and a layer of a solid electrolyte or an electrically conductive polymer provided therein, wherein the cathode foil is coated with a film of a metal nitride or a non-valve metal, wherein the anode foil has substantially the same width as the separator to make capacitance greater than a capacitor in which the anode foil has smaller width than that of the separator to prevent contact with the cathode, wherein the cathode foil has a smaller width than that of the anode foil for both foils to prevent contact each other while maintaining capacitance unchanged.”

Claim 1 of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/534,283 **does not explicitly set forth the following features:** “wherein the anode foil has substantially the same width as the separator to make capacitance greater than a capacitor in which the anode foil has smaller width than that of the separator to prevent contact with the cathode, wherein the cathode foil has a smaller width than that of the anode foil for both foils to prevent contact each other while maintaining capacitance unchanged.”

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional rejection should be withdrawn.

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The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over USP 6,052,273 (**Inoue**) in view of JP 04-071214 (**JP '214**).

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, for the following reasons.

The Examiner has suggested that it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to make the cathode foil having a width smaller than the width of anode foil.

However, **Inoue** and **JP '214**, alone or in combination, fail to disclose a capacitor which prevents both foils of cathode and anode from contacting each other while maintaining its capacitance unchanged. **Inoue** and **JP '214**, alone or in combination, fail to disclose a capacitor in which the anode foil has smaller width than that of the separator to prevent contact with cathode foil while maintaining its capacitance unchanged.

Inoue and **JP '214**, alone or in combination, fail to describe, teach, or suggest the following features set forth in claim 1, as amended: "wherein the anode foil has substantially the same width as the separator to make capacitance greater than a capacitor in which the anode foil has smaller width than that of the separator to prevent contact with the cathode, wherein the cathode foil has a smaller width than that of the anode foil for both foils to prevent contact each other while maintaining capacitance unchanged," in combination with the other claimed features.

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Thus, the Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.
The rejection of claims 2 and 3 should be withdrawn by virtue of their dependency.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, all claims currently pending are in condition for examination.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time, and any other fees which may be due now or in the future with respect to this application, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures: Substitute Abstract of Disclosure